

At Lancaster Yards Slaughter Steers Advance

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In Charge, Market News Branch
APRIL 24, 1959
WEEKLY REVIEW—

This week the supply of slaughter steers amounted to about 45 per cent and stockers and feeders 45 per cent of the run. This week's count will be about 1000 head less than last week's 5458 head count.

Trading was moderately active for all classes except slaughter steers on Mon. these were slow. Compared with last week's close slaughter steers were highly uneven but averaging about steady. Cows closed mostly 25 higher. Bulls held steady. Stockers and feeders were steady to 1 higher with most of the advance on stockers weighing under 700 lb.

The bulk of choice slaughter steers sold for 29.75-33.50 several loads and lots average to higher choice scaling 1213-1293 lb. made 33-34, a load mostly prime weighing 1293 lb. sold at 34.50. Good to low choice steers brought 26.75-30. Good and choice heifers made 25.50-28.75. Utility and coml. bulls ranged from 23-26, while good grade fed bulls managed 25.75 - 27.50

Cutter and utility cows sold between 17.75 - 22 with coml. cows going up to 23.25. Canners and low cutters made 16-17.75. Good and choice 800-1050 lb. feeder steers ranged from 28.00-30.50. medium and good grade made 26.50-28.25. Good and choice 550-800 lb. stock steers sold from 30-36.50, medium and good stockers brought 28-30.25. Good grade stock calves made 31-36, a part load choice 400 lb. calves made 38.

Trading was active for about 625 head of vealers. Vealers sold mostly 1 higher. Good and choice vealers made 30-39 and choice and prime commanded 39-42, standard and low good made 25-29 while utility sold down to 20.

For the third consecutive week, receipts in the hog division will total more than

2100 head. This week the supply will be about 75 head less than last week's 2181 head count. Trading was moderately active. Barrows and gilts were 25-50 lower. Sows sold steady to 1 lower.

Quality of the butchers was poor after Mon. U.S. 1-3 grade 190-225 lb. barrows and gilts made 17-17.50, 1-2 grade lots were absent after Mon. but early in the week 1-2 grade 200-215 lb. butchers made 18-18.75, with a few lots mostly No. 1 at 19-19.50 230 - 250 lb. hogs sold for 16.50-17.25. 300-600 lb. sows made 10-14.

Spring slaughter lambs accounted for about 60 per cent of the supply in the sheep division. The receipts will total about 300 head compared with 234 head last wk. Compared with last week's close woolled slaughter lambs held steady. Spring lambs were mostly 1 higher. Good and choice woolled lambs made 21.75-23.50, utility and low good made 19.75-21.75. Good and choice 50-80 lb. spring lambs sold at 29-32, a few lots good grade down to 28.

The 1959 early spring potato crop is now forecast by the Crop Reporting Board at 3,643,000 cwt. for the United States. This would be 23 per cent less than the 1958 crop, but nine per cent more than average. Production of winter crop potatoes, estimated at 3,874,000 cwt. is 22 per cent below 1958 and six per cent less than the 1849-57 average.

The acreage of late spring potatoes for harvest in 1959 is placed at 137,300 acres. This would be 17 per cent below the '58 harvested acreage and 26 per cent below average.

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Chicago Cattle

Quality & Price Off

WEEKLY REVIEW

CATTLE—Receipts about 15 per cent smaller than last week when supplies were largest in five weeks and fully 15 per cent smaller than the corresponding week last year. Non-slaughtering Jewish Holidays a major factor in the supply reduction.

Fully 70 per cent slaughter steers, between 15 and 20 per cent heifers and 7 per cent cows, percentages of the various classes not much different than last week. Only around 3 per cent of the steer supply prime, smallest for any week since last June, barely 50 per cent choice and fully 40 per cent good steers, these percentages about the same as last week. Indications average weight of slaughter steers will be less than last weeks average of 1152 lbs. and lightest for any week since last October. Average selling price of slaughter steers will be less than last weeks average of 29.69 which was the highest for any week since 1952.

Slaughter steers opened steady to fully 1 lower but closed only steady to .50 lower than late last week, virtually all of the downward pressure on choice and prime grades with wgt. over 1150 lbs. slowest to sell. At the same time, heifers advanced fully 50, Cows scored gains of 50-75 and bulls closed 50-1 higher. Vealers held steady until late when prices declined 1-2 owing to Kosher Holidays. Stockers and feeders slow but mostly steady. Steer and heifer beef carcasses in the Chicago wholesale meat trade sold steady to 50 higher and cow beef advanced 1.

Better than a dozen loads choice to mostly prime 1175-1400 lb. slaughter steers 35-36, 5 loads 36, loadlots high choice and mixed choice and prime 1025-1450 lb. steers, 32.25-34.75, load mixed choice and prime 1440 lb. steers

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Receipts on Thursday's beef market totaled 735 cattle and 238 calves. Steer market very brisk with all classes from 50-1 higher, instances more than \$1 higher. Bull market very active, all kinds except bologna bulls from 50-75 higher. Cow market very strong with all kinds 1 or more higher. Calf market \$1-2 higher on all kinds except choice and prime grades. Prime butcher steers—\$32-33.75; choice—30-32; good—28.50-30; plain-med.—26 - 28.50.

Choice butcher heifers — 27-28.75; good—25-27, and pl-med—23-25.

Good cows—22-23.50; med 20.50-22, and canners and cutters—18-20.50.

Good bulls—27.50 - 28.85; pl-med.—26-27.50.

Stocker and feeder steers 27.50-30.50; stock steer calves—31-33.50.

Choice-prime butcher calves—39-41; Good—37 - 39; med—33-37, and thin—25-33.

The April 22 dairy sale had receipts of 111 cows, 15 stock bulls and 27 heifers, with all classes steady.

Fresh Holstein cows brou-

ght \$340-450, Cows \$275-330, and other \$250-300.

Stock buls—\$100-120, stock heifers—\$80-100, Receipts of 250 noted on the April 22 and mule sale, especially the Mule market was slow. Not enough es to set a market.

Mule teams—\$120-185, Ponies—\$110-200, Riding horses—\$100-200, driving horses—\$100-200, Heavy killers—\$100-200, Thin—\$65-100

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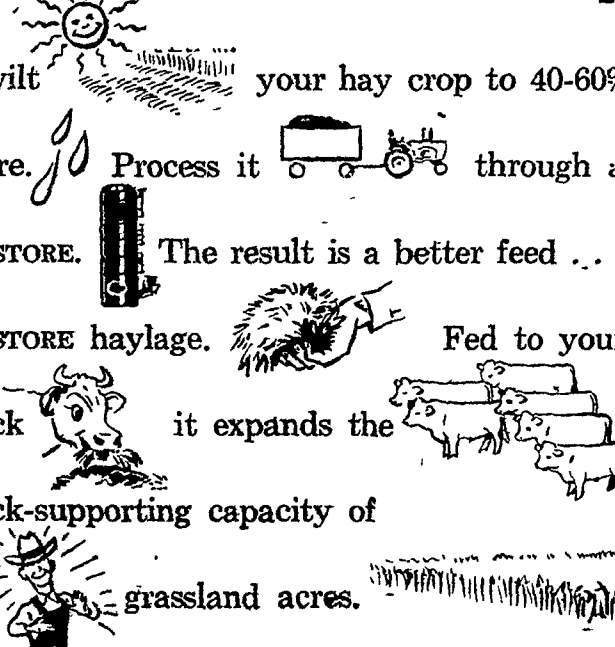
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